

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

CHANDRASEGARAN

Group Art Unit: 1814

Application No. 08/575,361 ✓

Examiner: Patterson ✓

Filed: December 20, 1995

Title: GENERAL METHOD TO CLONE HYBRID RESTRICTION
ENDONUCLEASES USING lig GENE

* * * * *



April 3, 1997

ELECTION

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 04 1997

GROUP 1800

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement of March 3, 1997, Applicants elect Group II, claims 9-26, with traverse. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement for the following reasons:

It is respectfully submitted that the inventions of Groups I and II are so linked as to form a single general inventive concept, and that it would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner to examine all of the pending claims.

In addition, it is respectfully pointed out that for enzymatically inactivating a target DNA, one needs to engineer the DNA constructs, and then clone, purify and characterize the chimeric restriction enzymes (Claims 9-26). These are the same steps necessary for cloning restriction endonucleases which could also be used to enzymatically inactivate target DNA (Claims 1-8). Because of this overlap in the two groups,

AA

7/10a
G.E.
4/13/97